

CITY OF TENAKEE SPRINGS

Art Bloom
MAYOR

ADMINISTRATION
(907) 736-2207

154

December 29, 2005

Carol Taylor, Program Developer
Statewide Planning Office
3132 Channel Drive, Suite 200
Juneau, AK 99801-7898

Dear Ms. Taylor,

Enclosed please find Resolution 2005-03 for the City of Tenakee Springs supporting a safe and reliable ferry system. The City of Tenakee Springs has been in full support of the Alaska Marine Highway System and has been well served by ferries and the ferry personnel.

The FY2006-2008 Draft STIP eliminating the M/V LeConte replacement affects our community deeply. The LeConte is old and becoming unreliable. In the past year it has been out of service several times and the effect has been clear. Personal travel has been uncertain and our ability to shop in Juneau and return with supplies and groceries has been hampered. We feel strongly that the funding for this project should be reinstated in the FY 2006-2008 STIP and that it should have high priority.

Additionally, planners should be made aware that our community, like several others in Southeast Alaska, is without roads and cars. Our residents do not own cars and would therefore be put at a great logistical and financial disadvantage traveling in a road-ferry system that, by its nature requires long waits and occasional overnights.

The transportation needs of Southeast Alaska are a complex matter. It might well be met by some new roads but it cannot be met by the same road-ferry kind of system as would serve a more urban area. We are a land of islands, the water *is* our highway.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Brooke Elgie
City Council Vice Mayor
Ex officio Vice Mayor

Encl: Resolution2005-03

cc: Governor Frank Murkowski, Representative Bill Thomas, Senator Albert Kookesh

City of Tenakee Springs

RESOLUTION 2005-03

In the Council
July 22, 2004

Introduced by the
Council President

A RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY OF TENAKEE SPRINGS, ALASKA, IN SUPPORT
OF MAINTAINING A SAFE AND RELIABLE ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM
(AMHS)

WHEREAS, being citizens of the State of Alaska and the City of Tenakee Springs the AMHS is
"our highway" to Juneau, Sitka and other outlying Southeast Alaska communities; and

WHEREAS, the ferry system benefits the economical and social fabric of our community. The
AMHS is important to our way of life in Tenakee Springs and other Southeast Alaska
outlying communities; and

WHEREAS, the ferry service in the future should remain safe and reliable and under the
management of the AMHS and not put out to privatization.

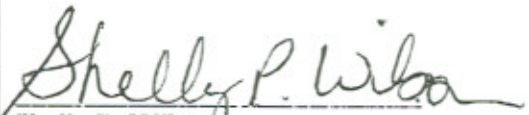
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the ferry system should be improved upon instead of being
eliminated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the City of Tenakee Springs should be included in discussions and
decisions concerning the future ferry service of Tenakee Springs and Northern
Southeast Alaska.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the City of Tenakee Springs should be made aware of and be able
to comment in an adequate timeframe concerning all future ferry scheduling affecting
our community.

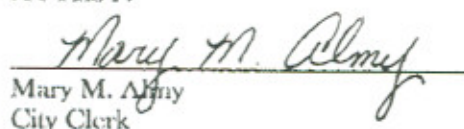
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Common Council of the City of Tenakee Springs, Alaska is
in support of maintaining a safe and reliable Alaska Marine Highway System.

ADOPTED 7 Ayes, 0 Absent THIS 22nd DAY OF July 2004



Shelly P. Wilson
City Council President
Ex officio MAYOR

ATTEST:



Mary M. Almy
City Clerk